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update

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Dutch grant for essential drugs to Mongolia

The Government of the Netherlands will provide a $1.1 million emergency grant for replenishing urgently needed medical supplies in Mongolia. At the request of the Dutch Government, UNDP's Office for Project Services will coordinate procurement for the year-long project. Provisions will include antibiotics, surgical supplies, vitamins and medical products for pharmacies. The World Health Organization identified these needs and will distribute the vital supplies in close consultation with the Government of Mongolia.

Afghanistan plans rehabilitation

While Afghanistan slowly emerges from the devastation of a 14-year civil war, more than five million Afghans in Pakistan and Iran have begun trekking home to their villages and communities. One of the priorities of Afghanistan's interim government is to assess the country's immediate rehabilitation needs and priorities while coping with this influx of returning refugees.

UNDP will assist in preparing a long-term reconstruction and development strategy. The plan will provide a technically sound framework of key rehabilitation activities for the next two years, including a portfolio of viable and sustainable projects identified for funding.

A UN Office for the Rehabilitation Strategy in Afghanistan (UNORSA) has been set up temporarily in Islamabad. The office is headed by a director, appointed by UNDP, who will receive policy guidance from representatives of the Government of Afghanistan and UN agencies actively involved in the country. In close consultation with UNDP, UNORSA will organize and provide air and ground transportation and logistic support necessary for the strategy formulation project.

Applied statistics for countries in transition

The transition from central planning to market economies in Eastern European and CIS countries requires enormous change in statistical offices in those countries. Reliable, comprehensive and timely statistics are essential for carrying out economic analyses, and monitoring and controlling new economic policies. Furthermore, sound statistical information is vital for international lending institutions and potential investors.

As existing systems of economic statistics are inadequate to meet the steadily increasing demand for such information, UNDP will support a project to improve statistical programmes in the region's national statistical offices. It will concentrate on three priority areas: a system of national accounts will be devised, business registers will be established and economic sample surveys will be developed.

UNDP to sponsor international award for environmentally-sound technology

UNDP will co-sponsor the Liguria International Technology for Development Prize, which promotes environmentally-sound energy technologies for developing countries. The annual award is funded by numerous Italian industries and was created four years ago by the International Centre of Culture for the Development of People, based in Genoa, Italy.

The prestigious prize is aimed at advancing technological know-how which is easily assimilated, or will improve living standards, and is in keeping with social, cultural and environmental needs of developing countries.

Applications must be written in English, French, Spanish or Italian. They should be sent no later than 31 March, 1993 to: Centro Internazionale Di Cultura Per Lo Sviluppo Dei Popoli, Piazza della Vittoria, 11A/5 - 16121, Genoa, Italy.

In this issue:

Projects approved: **Modernizing Argentina's postal service • Botswana improves air transportation • Better sanitation management for Brazil • China bolsters education system • Energy conservation for DPR Korea • Egypt to privatize public enterprises • Support to the Eritrea referendum • Promoting the private sector in Mali • Improved rural development for Mali • Educating through videos in Mali • Peru monitors greenhouse gases • New sources of protein for Zambia • Strengthening primary education in the South Pacific • Human development in the Pacific region • Protection of the Black Sea**

READEX
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Approved projects
(all projects subject to modification; sums quoted in US dollars)

Argentina — ENCOTEL is responsible for carrying out the postal and telegraph services in Argentina. Its performance has greatly deteriorated in recent years due to a decline in technology and equipment. UNDP assistance was requested to help restructure and modernize the postal service to make it more attractive to potential private investors. The project will organize ENCOTEL's management, and financial, administrative, marketing, quality control and production systems.

UNDP contribution: $8,059,760. Funds will provide international experts and consultants in postal distribution, informatics and training. National consultants will be used in such fields as marketing, human resources, administration, finance and publicity. In addition, sub-contracts for advertising and market surveys will be financed. Government executed and implemented by the Universal Postal Union. (ARG/92/031)

Botswana — The development of air transport is hindered by the lack of qualified and experienced national personnel in flight operations and engineering, and the need for improved operational and administrative procedures. UNDP will assist the Department of Civil Aviation in completing new construction and engineering. An airworthiness and flight safety training unit will be established to meet short-and long-term training needs.

Government cost-sharing: $9,416,575. Funds will provide an engineering and airworthiness adviser, two training officers and consultants in civil aviation management. In addition, project support will be used for fellowships in air transport, air traffic services, telecommunications, engineering, flight operations and aviation ground services. Executed by the International Civil Aviation Organization and implemented by the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications. (BOT/92/001)

Brazil — UNDP will assist in improving the quality of water and sanitation services to the urban and rural population by developing new legal, institutional and financial regulatory systems for the water and sanitation sector. A detailed programme for water management and systems rehabilitation will be submitted for financing to national and international financial agencies.

Government cost-sharing: $7,766,990. Funds will provide training, equipment, and international and national consultants to advise on setting up sanitation systems, financing and taxation policies, water management investment projects and rehabilitation of sanitation systems. Executed by the National Secretariat for Water and Sanitation and implemented by the Institute of Applied Economic Research. (BRA/92/028)

China — UNDP will support the improvement of education management throughout the country. The programme will strengthen primary and middle school administration by improving the training of administrators. Primary and middle school teachers will receive training to enhance curriculum development. In addition, innovative techniques and materials will be introduced to strengthen science education.

UNDP contribution: $3,000,000. Government cost-sharing: $230,000. Funds will be used for consultants, training and computers. Executed by the China International Center for Economic and Technical Exchanges. Implemented by the State Education Commission. (CPR/91/420)

DPR Korea —The government has embarked on an energy conservation programme which will focus on adopting new energy saving technologies and improving energy management. UNDP will provide support to upgrade the facilities and maintenance procedures at a thermal power station in Pyongyang. The Centre for the Rational use of Energy will be upgraded to conduct a nationwide energy audit programme. Pilot projects will be set up to demonstrate new energy conservation technologies.

UNDP contribution: $2,740,000. Funds will be used for training, and a sub-contract for the design, procurement and supply of equipment for the pilot demonstration projects. Executed by the General Bureau for Cooperation with International Organizations. Implemented by the Pyongyang Thermal Power Station, the Centre for the Rational Use of Energy, and the Electric Power System Planning Centre. (DRK/92/011)

Egypt — The government has adopted a comprehensive economic reform and structural adjustment programme to accelerate the economic reforms needed to reach a full-employment, market-based economy. UNDP will strengthen the capacity of the government and relevant institutions to privatize and restructure certain public enterprises. Top management and directors of holding companies will be trained in basic skills to operate successfully in a market economy. Public awareness campaigns will be conducted on privatization and its effect on Egypt's economic future.

UNDP contribution: $2,457,000. Government cost-sharing: $1,721,000. Funds will provide international specialists in economics, accounting, management, business law, and privatization. Na-

tional experts in the fields of financial analysis and management, labour redeployment, business development, research and public relations will also be provided. Executed by the Ministry of Public Sector Business Enterprises and implemented by UNDP's Office for Project Services and the World Bank. (EGY/92/013)

Eritrea — Eritreans requested an internationally-observed referendum to determine the wishes of the people regarding their political status. UNDP will provide assistance for the mobilization and coordination of external resources for strengthening the capacity of the Referendum Commission to carry out a fair, free and impartial referendum in April 1993.

UNDP contribution: $300,000. Donor governments' contribution: $2,950,020. Funds will provide training, consultants, equipment and election materials. Executed by UNDP's Office for Project Services and implemented by the Referendum Commission. (ERI/93/001)

Mali — This UNDP-supported project will help the government conceive and carry out policies to develop the private sector. The capabilities of the banking sector to monitor loan applications from small firms will be improved. Training will be provided in the fields of finance, management and technology in order to help establish new enterprises which will provide long-term employment.

UNDP contribution: $4,678,000. Funds will be used for training, equipment and experts in enterprise management, marketing and banking systems. Executed by UNDP's Office for Project Services and implemented by the Ministry of Promotion of the Private Sector. (MLI/91/004)

Mali — To improve the agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors, UNDP will assist in the implementation of the government's rural development programme. UNDP will help strengthen the capability of the Ministry of Rural Development in designing, planning, coordinating and monitoring rural development efforts.

UNDP contribution: $7,600,000. Funds will provide experts in agronomy, crop protection, fisheries and livestock. Executed by the Ministry of Rural Development and Environment and implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN. (MLI/91/005)

Mali — This project will complete a four-year effort to create the Centre for Audiovisual Production Services (CESPA). UNDP will provide the centre with equipment and training capabilities. Audiovisual programmes produced at CESPA will be used to improve the understanding and acceptance of development issues among illiterate rural and urban poor populations.

UNDP contribution: $2,008,000. Funds will be used for training, equipment, and communications and electronics experts. Executed by CESPA and implemented by FAO. (MLI/92/001)

Peru — This project will help implement energy-saving programmes in industry and transport to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions will be monitored. Energy audits will be conducted in a wide range of large-scale industrial enterprises. The capabilities of the Centre for Energy Conservation (CENERGIA) will be strengthened to enable staff to undertake energy audits, and better monitor, control and evaluate greenhouse gas emissions.

UNDP contribution: $810,310. Funds will provide training and experts in environment management and energy auditing. Executed by the Department of Economic and Social Development and implemented by CENERGIA. (PER/92/G31)

Zambia — Protein sources are neither affordable nor available in sufficient quantities to the majority of the population throughout the year. The government has undertaken steps to improve food production and has asked for further assistance from UNDP. The aim of this project is to improve the food security, and sustainable crop productivity of small-scale farmers, as well as the nutritional value of their yields. Demonstration plots of major food legume crops will be planted. More than 15,000 farmers will receive training in production and storage of food legumes.

UNDP contribution: $1,589,400. Funds will be used for training, equipment, an international agronomist, two national experts in legume breeding and two UN volunteers for bean and soya bean breeding. Executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries. (ZAM/92/003)

Regional Projects

RAS/92/302 — Basic Education in the South Pacific — Primary education in many South Pacific countries is often marked by poor performance of students, high drop-out rates, low literacy levels, inadequately trained teachers and inappropriate curricula.

UNDP will provide support to a multi-agency regional project to enhance primary education in rural areas and remote islands. Emphasis will be placed on teacher training and developing community support for education. More appropriate and sustainable curricula will be developed which will include agricultural

studies and impart skills relevant to the Pacific region. In addition, an information system will be set up to monitor national examinations and children's educational progress at the primary level.

UNDP contribution: $2,014,500. Funds will be used for equipment, education consultants, and support costs. Executed and implemented by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and participating government agencies.

RAS/92/300 — Human Development — UNDP will help improve the capability of rural communities in the Pacific region to plan, initiate, manage and sustain their own development programmes. Special attention will be given to rural populations, women and unemployed youth.

UNDP contribution: $199,700. Funds will provide a community development specialist and consultants to formulate and coordinate programmes. Executed by UNDP's Office for Project Services.

RER/92/G31 — Environmental Management and Protection of the Black Sea — This Global Environment Facility programme is geared toward rehabilitating and introducing sustainable development of marine and coastal resources in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov. The programme will strengthen the regional capabilities for managing the Black Sea ecosystem through human resources development in environmental monitoring and management. Policies will be devised for the assessment, control and prevention of pollution.

GEF contribution: $9.3 million. Funds will provide a programme coordinator, a water specialist and an environmental economist. In addition, the programme will support pre-investment studies, training, and equipment for monitoring pollution. Executed by UNDP's Office for Project Services and implemented by the Black Sea Convention Secretariat.

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UNDP finalizes programme to encourage more foreign investment in Asia

UNDP is in final negotiations with other organizations to launch a proposed $14 million regional programme to boost trade and investment in Asia. The ambitious programme will focus on creating the policies, institutions and promotion strategies needed to encourage further trade and investment in the region.

To ensure that regional technical cooperation is anchored in real needs, UNDP organized three consultations over the past year with Asian ministers, representatives of investment promotion agencies, and economic policy-makers.

As a result, UNDP's regional programme will be geared toward strengthening institutions concerned with the areas those consultations examined: international trade policy, export-oriented small and medium-scale enterprises, trade-related intellectual property, and direct foreign investment and trade. In addition, the programme will help governments reform their investment policies to increase the likelihood of attracting foreign capital.

UNDP will work in close cooperation with other UN agencies, the World Bank, and national and regional institutions in Asia and the Pacific. The private sector, universities, trade associations, chambers of commerce and non-governmental organizations will also be involved, both as beneficiaries and implementing agents of the five-year programme.

Gearing up for elections in Madagascar

Presidential elections in Madagascar are scheduled for 10 February, shortly followed by legislative elections. As part of a $252,250 project, UNDP's Office for Project Services has been strengthening the National Electoral Council and assisting government coordination of external aid for these upcoming elections.

A national convention setting up an 18-month timetable for the orderly establishment of a new government was signed in October 1991. In accordance with the timetable, a general referendum was held last August, adopting the Republic's constitution by a 70 per cent majority.

In support of the electoral process, UNDP has helped to determine the logistical and material needs for elections and procure the necessary supplies, such as computers and audio-visual equipment. It has organized donor meetings in support of the elections and will offer technical support to the local offices that will provide observers.

Protecting the world's oceans

UNDP's Office for Project Services will carry out a $2.4 million Global Environment Facility (GEF) project to improve management of the world's oceans and enhance the contribution of developing countries in protecting international waters. The GEF is a comprehensive programme aimed at giving special consideration to global environmental problems. It is managed jointly by the World Bank, UNDP and the UN Environment Programme.

As part of this new GEF project, four regional training and research centres will be established: in India to cover South Asia, in Fiji to handle the South Pacific, in Colombia for the Caribbean, and in Senegal for Africa.

This global network of centres will give civil servants and marine experts from developing countries a permanent means to upgrade skills and communicate their research findings. It will help ensure that policy-oriented research can be globally shared. The need is apparent: integrated ocean management is a new science that makes new demands on civil servants and decision-makers responsible for drafting legislation and building institutional support for ocean management.

Each regional centre will be geared toward improving the sustainable productivity of the marine environment. All will be linked to the International Ocean Institute (IOI) in Malta, which issues publications, supports research and runs conferences and training courses on

In this issue:

projects approved: **Rehabilitation for Afghanistan • Bhutan improves vocational training, and health and human resources • Support for Brazil's agricultural research • Safe water for the Central African Republic • Restructuring Colombia's water sector • Expanding Ecuador's national health plan • Malawi decentralizes poverty alleviation programmes • Better roads for Mozambique • Marketing facilities for Nepal • Bolstering Nicaragua's judicial training • Rural development in Niger • Social investment projects for Peru • Support for ozone and global change research**

managing the long-term development of the 200-mile exclusive economic zones of developing countries.

African countries examine legal dimensions of debt management

The legal aspect of debt management was the main topic of a subregional seminar held in Windhoek, Namibia on 18-26 January. Primarily intended for lawyers who have legal responsibilities in the financial field, the seminar included participants from Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The event was organized by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), with support from the Government of Switzerland and UNDP.

The seminar gathered and disseminated vital information among the African participants for use in negotiating and contracting loans with developed countries. The aim was to improve the negotiating capabilities of the borrowing countries, and ultimately to substitute local attorneys for the international experts currently used in debt management negotiations.

The seminar provided a general overview of key legal issues and the role of the lawyers in dealing with debt management. Participants reviewed budgetary law, national loan and guarantee approval procedures, and export credit practices. Discussions on debt rescheduling and debt conversion were also on the seminar agenda. In addition, general background on international contract negotiations was presented.

Approved projects

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Afghanistan — During the last 14 years of war, Afghanistan's agriculture has been severely damaged. As local conflicts gradually cease, long-term programmes in agricultural rehabilitation must be developed. UNDP will help prepare a comprehensive, large-scale rehabilitation programme for the agricultural sector.

UNDP contribution: $666,500. Funds will provide a programme coordinator and an agricultural systems expert, consultants, and equipment. Executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO). Implemented by FAO, local NGOs and councils. (AFG/92/008)

Afghanistan — UNDP will provide funding toward 100 United Nations Volunteers (UNV) who are filling the gaps of specialized technical and administrative personnel in Afghanistan. UNV monitoring and operational activities will contribute to the halting of locust infestation, the construction of village schools, the provision of basic health and food services, and the general repatriation of refugees from Pakistan and Iran.

UNDP contribution: $2,236,071. Parallel Financing from the Office of the UN Co-ordinator for Afghanistan (UNOCA): $3,600,000. Executed by UNV. Implemented by FAO, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. (AFG/89/001)

Bhutan — UNDP will help strengthen the government's capacity to provide essential health and education services at the central and provincial levels. Teaching and training institutions in the areas of education, health, housing, roads, agriculture and animal husbandry will be improved. On-the-job training for government officers will be upgraded.

UNDP contribution: $2,934,905. Funds will provide United Nations Volunteers (UNVs) in education, health, animal husbandry, agriculture, and construction. Executed and implemented by UNV. (BHU/91/006)

Bhutan — Due to the shortage of skilled personnel and technicians throughout Bhutan, the government recently reactivated its Technical and Vocational Education Division (TVED). UNDP will provide support to strengthen the TVED, which plans, monitors, evaluates and coordinates technical education. UNDP will also help expand, upgrade and improve training at the Royal Bhutan Polytechnic, and design courses to respond to the needs of the female students.

UNDP contribution: $1,187,609. Funds will provide UNVs and international experts in civil, electrical and mechanical engineering. Executed by the Department of Education. Implemented by the International Labour Organisation, the Technical and Vocational Education Division, and the Royal Bhutan Polytechnic. (BHU/91/008)

Brazil — This project is part of an overall plan to modernize the agricultural sector to make it more competitive in the world economy. Studies will be conducted to help formulate agricultural policy and determine long-term development strategies. Seminars and workshops will provide training to the officials responsible for formulating and carrying out agricultural policy.

Government cost-sharing: $5,000,000. Funds will be used for consultants and sub-contracts for research. Government executed and implemented by the Institute of Applied Economic Research. (BRA/91/014)

Central African Republic — In its most recent plan for economic and social development, the government places priority on increasing

the availability of safe drinking water. UNDP will prepare an action plan for the development of all national water resources, linking donors' project proposals to the plan. Construction of boreholes and provision of handpumps will help ensure drinking water to 150,000 villagers in Ombella M'Poko and Lobaye. Nearly 100 dry latrines will be constructed at schools and health centres. In addition, health education will be offered.

UNDP contribution: $1,746,000. United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) contribution: $3,711,388. Government cost-sharing: $705,875. UNDP funds will provide for an hydraulic engineer, and United Nations Volunteer specialists in drilling, pump maintenance and logistics. In addition, UNDP will offer training and a fellowship in water resources management. UNCDF will finance 350 handpumps and drilling equipment. Executed by the UN Department of Economic and Social Development and implemented by the Directorate of Water Resources. (CAF/91/C03/CAF/91/015)

Colombia — UNDP will provide support to improve the quality of water and sanitation services in medium and small-sized cities and rural areas. The aim will be to restructure the water sector towards more decentralized management and involvement of the private sector. Legal and technical plans will be devised for sub-contracting the administration of water and sewerage utilities to private companies. A tariff system will be set up to cover the managerial, operations and maintenance costs of the expanded water systems.

UNDP contribution: $371,600. Government cost-sharing: $2,997,900. Funds will be used for training, equipment, and consultants in the areas of management, informatics and law. Government executed and implemented by the National Planning Department. (COL/92/001)

Ecuador — Access to basic health and sanitation services is severely limited for half of Ecuador's population. In rural areas, 35 per cent have access to adequate water supplies and only eight per cent have access to sewerage facilities. UNDP will assist in implementing the government's national health plan by extending basic health and sanitation services to rural areas which do not currently receive them. The project will deliver experimental models of sanitation service to six provinces. Evaluations will determine the most effective models for use in the rest of the country. In addition, a management information system will be installed for the Ministry of Health.

UNDP contribution: $3,023,984. Funds will provide equipment, consultants, and a subcontract for the operation and maintenance of the information system. Government executed and implemented by government agencies and local NGOs. (ECU/92/011)

Malawi — Nearly 90 per cent of the population lives in rural areas. The government, therefore, is trying to bring development to rural areas through donor-supported initiatives. UNDP will support a programme to strengthen the capabilities of local districts to manage development activities focused on poverty alleviation. Emphasis will be placed on improving development policy, planning and finance.

UNDP contribution: $6.1 million. Funds will be used for experts, training and equipment. Executed by relevant ministries of the Government of Malawi. Cooperating agencies: UNDP's Office for Project Services, the UN Department for Economic and Social Development, and the International Labour Organisation. (MLW/92/001 - MLW/92/005)

Mozambique — This project will improve the condition of the feeder road network in Zambezia province, and thereby provide access for delivery of emergency relief supplies and community services. UNCDF support will be used to rehabilitate drainage systems, bridges and 100 kilometres of gravel and earth roads on the Gurue-Lioma-Mutuali route. Local labour will be trained to construct and maintain the roads.

United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) contribution: $2,974,000. Funds will be used for the procurement of new equipment, spare parts, and construction materials. Executed by UNCDF and implemented by the National Directorate of Roads and Bridges of the Ministry of Construction and Water. (MOZ/89/C04)

Nepal — The inadequacy of marketing facilities and transportation systems, and the inability of farmer cooperative groups to organize bulk collection of produce place major constraints on agricultural production. To improve marketing capabilities in Nepal, the government requested support from UNCDF to develop marketing facilities in Pokhara and the Central Region of the country. Farm groups will be organized and trained to set up market sites, and manage fee collections, finances and accounts. A market information system will be established to collect and disseminate information on daily prices, volumes of supply, and levels and location of demand. In addition, an improved packaging system will be introduced.

UNCDF contribution: $3,571,960. Government cost-sharing: $144,941. Funds will be used for a marketing expert, an engineer, and sub-contracts to local consulting firms for engineering design and construction. Executed by UNDP's Office for Project Services and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN. Implemented by the Department of Agricultural Development (NEP/89/C04).

Nicaragua — Until the beginning of last year, the judicial system in Nicaragua was in the hands of 150 local judges, of whom 90 per cent

had no professional degree nor secondary schooling. UNDP will provide support to train 150 law graduates and 300 legal aides. Technical assistance will help update judicial legislation and improve registration of commercial property. Equipment will be provided to upgrade judicial institutions.

UNDP contribution: $700,000. Funds will provide consultants, training and equipment. Executed by the Nicaraguan Supreme Court of Justice and implemented by UNDP. (NIC/92/006)

Niger — The Mayahi district, one of the major grain producing areas of the country, has suffered from declining agricultural productivity due to severe drought. To help reverse this trend, UNDP will provide support to community groups and families in 40 villages who will contribute to the reforestation of 10,000 hectares of land. Tree species known for their positive effect on soil regeneration will be used. Seeds and fertilizers will be provided.

This integrated development project will also help villagers improve the overall quality of their lives through better housing and social service programmes. In addition, training will be offered in such areas as carpentry and masonry. The aim will be to increase income from non-agricultural areas.

UNDP contribution: $1,293,612. UNCDF contribution: $5,593,150. UNCDF will finance the planting of various tree species, and promote small businesses through the establishment of a line of credit. UNDP will provide funds for experts, travel, training and equipment. Executed by UNCDF and implemented by the Ministry of Planning. (NER/87/C02/NER/90/013)

Peru — Two years ago, the government created the National Fund for Social Compensation and Development (FONCODES), to generate employment and income through the financing of social investment projects in poor communities. UNDP's support has been requested to ensure neutrality in the distribution of the fund's resources. Community groups in the Inka region will be organized to identify and submit investment projects for FONCODES' consideration.

Government cost-sharing: $484,500. Third-party cost-sharing $4,982,500. Funds will be used for experts, training, and communication and computer equipment. Government executed. Implemented by FONCODES. (PER/92/027)

Regional Projects

RLA/92/G35 — Regional Research on Global Atmospheric Changes — The Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI), founded by the scientific community of the Americas, is a network of national research centres which examine such topics as global warming and ozone depletion. Information from scientific investigations by the IAI's research centres fuels policy-making in Latin America and the Caribbean, and provides important data for developing global policies and conventions.

UNDP will provide support to improve and expand the scientific and technical capabilities of the research centres in countries which have IAI affiliations. Standard methods for collecting and processing basic data relevant to global change will be established for each national centre. An information exchange system, linking the participating institutions with selected ones in the US and Canada, will be created.

UNDP contribution: $2,831,000. Third-party cost sharing: $235,000. Funds will be used for training, fellowships and computer equipment. Executed by OPS. Implemented by the Inter-American Institute for Global Change.

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